

(b) whether the State Governments have been taken into confidence about the need to evolve a universal 'Population Policy' with specific targets and its implementation in a non-partisan manner;

(c) whether the Union Government have made any reassessment/readjustment in the 'Population Policy' in the context of the relevant mandate as per the Resolution regarding 'Agenda for India' adopted by the Lok Sabha on September 1, 1997; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) The States and Union Territories have been consulted before preparation of the draft National Population Policy. The draft has also taken note of the Resolution titled 'Agenda for India' adopted by Lok Sabha on 1st September 1997.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Power Projects in Bihar

114. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power projects in the country about which a decision has been taken to hand them over to private sector;

(b) whether any power project is being handed over to private sector in Bihar also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Since the inception of the private sector policy of the Government of India in 1991 and to date, 127 proposals have been received for setting up a generation capacity of 68243.11 MW. These include 95 proposals on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/Letter of Intent (LoI), etc. route (costing above Rs. 100 crores) and 32 proposals on the competitive bidding route (costing more than Rs. 1000 crores).

(b) So far, no power project of Bihar have been handed over to the private sector.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

(d) The time by which these projects are likely to become functional can be determined only after they achieve financial closure.

Indians in Pak Jails

115. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians in Pakistani Jails at present for over a year, for alleged illegal immigration, infiltration and on other charges, separately; and

(b) the number of Indian citizens freed by Pakistan during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) According to available information, at present there are about 1150 Indians in the custody of Pakistan for over a year.

In addition, 54 Indian Defence personnel missing from the 1965 and 1971 wars are believed to be in the custody of Pakistan.

It is not possible to separately indicate the number of Indians held for illegal immigration, infiltration and on other charges since the Pakistan Government does not provide information in this regard.

(b) The number of Indian citizens freed by Pakistan during each of the last 3 years is as under:—

1994	84
1995	27
1996	—
1997 (up to November)	235

INSAT-2D

116. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

SHRI MADAN PATIL :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efforts of the Scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have failed to revive the INSAT-2D and finally abandoned;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the efforts made by ISRO to launch another satellite?